# A QUIET ROOM

R. AMBROSE REEVES

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*A Quiet Room*

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# A Quiet Room

A BOOK OF PRAYERS AND OFFICES

COMPILED BY

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WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

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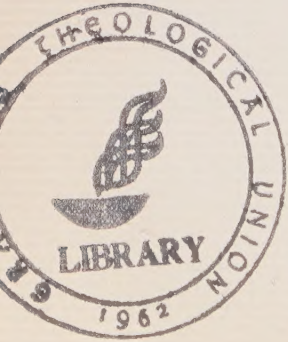

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*THE weary ones had rest, the sad had joy*
*That day and wondered how—*
*The ploughman singing at his work had prayed,*
*Lord, bless them now.*

*Away in foreign fields they wondered how*
*Their simple word had power—*
*At home the Christians two or three had met*
*To pray an hour.*

*Yes, we are always wondering, wondering how!*
*Because we do not see*
*Someone—perhaps unknown and far away—*
*On bended knee.*

In affectionate remembrance of a company of men and women at St. Peter's Church, New York, who taught me something of the value and joy that come to those who intercede before the Throne of Grace for the common needs of mankind, I gratefully dedicate this work.

R. Ambrose Reeves

*The Feast of the Holy Name*, 1927

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# *Contents*

FOREWORD ix

INTRODUCTION xi

*PART I:* GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

The World of International Affairs 3
The Government of Our Land 9
The Industrial Life of Our Nation 12
For the Students of the World 17

*PART II:* THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Reunion of Christendom 27
The Missionary Work of the Church 31
The Increase of the Ministry 37

*PART III:* A PARISH

The Clergy and Faithful of a Parish 45
The Family Life of the Parish 50
The Children of the Parish 56
Those Who Teach in Day and Church School 62
The Sick in the Parish 68
The Common Life of Daily Service 72
The Conversion of Sinners 77
For Those Visiting Homes in the Parish 82

*PART IV:* THE HOLY EUCHARIST

In Preparation for Holy Communion 91

In Thanksgiving for Holy Communion 96

*PART V:* A DAY OF PRAYER

## *Foreword*

THE usual prayer meetings of churches in the past generation seem to be dying out rapidly, and in many places the need is being felt for something which must replace them if the great spiritual value of small groups meeting together regularly for prayer is not to be lost to the Church of Christ. This little book grew out of a series of such services as are contained here which were held on Friday nights over a period of some months in one of the churches in New York. It is offered here in the hope that this type of corporate service may reach a wider circle of persons desirous of meeting together for public prayer; and, also, that it may lead others to experiment with other and better forms of prayer. The hymns suggested are those suitable ones, best known to the greater number of Christian people. Other appropriate hymns, of which there are very many, may be selected at the discretion of the missioner or leader.

In any work of this nature it is almost impossible to acknowledge all the sources to which one is indebted for prayers, but the author wishes to make grateful acknowledgement to the following:

To Messrs. Mowbray for permission to print an adaptation of "An Intercession for the Nations of the World" and "An Intercession for Education," from Cambridge Offices and Orisons, and for incorporating a section from the "Litany of The Holy Ghost," from Prime and Hours and a section from Sursum Corda.

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If any acknowledgements have been overlooked the author offers his sincere apologies for the omission and will make acknowledgement of the same at the first opportunity.

R. A. R.

## *Introduction*

EVERY believer in a personal God rejoices in all that strengthens a life of prayer. The hope that many people may find these prayers and meditations helpful awakens the desire to say the most encouraging things possible on behalf of this little book. Here is another call into the realm of the spirit—a call that betokens and stimulates a life of faith which is the heart of all prayer. Nothing shows our attitude toward God better than our prayers. The obvious lack of prayer today is a tacit avowal of much unbelief or doubt. People are asking on all sides: "Do you really think that the God of Nature, the God of law, the God of this great universe, really answers prayer?" To many thoughtful persons it seems incredible that prayers are really answered, and the results of such doubts are seen on all sides. Quite obviously it is going to take more than a book of prayers to restore faith; and of course such a book will only be used by those who already believe. But the more people pray, the easier will it be for others to return to prayer. The more explicit the awakening of faith after the long night

of doubt, the sooner will honest seekers find their way home to God.

It is with a very sincere prayer that this book may be widely used that I say these words on behalf of a return to faith. It may seem hard to believe, but it is really harder not to believe. It may seem illogical to believe, but here again, it is more logical to believe than to doubt. All the deepest instincts in us crave some foundation for our efforts. All our efforts are built upon some such assumptions. Our own freedom teaches us the first lesson in the understanding of God's freedom. After all, He is Spirit; and so are we. We meet in this inner world, this world of personality, this world of final reality—this world of faith. Here is the seat of authority for a life of prayer. How thankful may we be that the experience of the arts as well as the learning of the sciences all ultimately converge in the mysterious center of the spirit! How gladly then may we renew our faith in the person of the Holy Spirit! In fellowship with Him prayer becomes the very breath of the soul. Nothing is sadder than the struggle of a soul when faith is gone. All our violent denials are in reality protests against the intolerable condition of darkness. All our arguing is a cry for light. Every soul longs for real fellowship with its Creator. Though we think we

doubt, we know we long to believe. We all believe in faith and we want others to be faithful. We are weary of negations. The heart of humanity hungers for certainties. Honest seekers want to know that someone has really seen the Promised Land. The lovers of beauty rejoice that the masters have seen visions of beauty; the lovers of goodness rejoice that the pure in heart have seen God. Goodness is as certain to find response as beauty; and these two tell us that God is true. He has spoken in His holiness: we worship Him in beauty, we love Him in truth. He is above all and in all.

The man of God speaks of that which he knows. His face tells the story. Its radiance, its purity are its truth. They who climb the mount shine and we know that they have been with Him. Let us go where they have been. Let us get more faith from the faithful. Faith is like fire; it leaps from coal to coal. It is caught rather than taught. The way of faith is profoundly social and moral just as much as personal and emotional.

"The returning tide of faith" gives us great reason for hope. To awaken to the light of a new day with bright radiance bursting over the eastern horizon is to rejoice already in the glory of the Lord. The light has come. The glory of the Lord has been revealed—all flesh will see it.

The day is at hand. More and more little bands will go off into "A Quiet Room." More and more mighty powers will be manifest as the fires of faith are kindled.

For all whom we lead and follow into this inner sanctuary we are profoundly grateful. To all who look thither we call with confidence and hope: "Come, for all things are now ready." The keynote of all our prayers is a grateful expectancy. We know in whom we have believed. Prayer is not only an experiment, it is an experience. It gives meaning to all else. Before all else prayer is the great need today. The secrets are to be revealed to those who love Him and dare to seek. The door is wide open. He calls us into the upper room, into the joy of His presence, and into the very glory of His kingdom. May His voice speak clearly to all who read these words and may His Spirit guide many into a deeper and more fruitful life of devotion.

SAMUEL BABCOCK BOOTH

PART ONE

# *General Intercessions*

*WHAT makes a city great? Huge piles of stone*
*Heaped heavenward? Vast multitudes who dwell*
*Within wide circling walls? Palace and throne*
*And riches past the count of men to tell,*
*And wide domain? Nay, these the empty husk!*
*True glory dwells where great deeds are done,*
*Where glorious men rise whose names a'thwart the dusk*
*Of misty centuries gleam like the sun!*
*In Athens, Sparta, Florence, 'twas the soul*
*That was the city's bright immortal part,*
*The splendour of the city was their goal,*
*Their jewel the unconquerable heart!*
*So may the city that I love be great*
*'Til every stone shall be articulate.*

—DUDLEY FOULKE

## THE WORLD OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HYMN: God is working His purpose out.

THEREFORE let us also, seeing that we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and hath sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that hath endured such gainsaying of sinners against himself, that ye wax not weary, fainting in your souls. *Heb.* xii: 1-3.

Let us pray

O ETERNAL GOD, the Father of all mankind, in whom we live and move and have our being; Have mercy on the whole human race. Pity their ignorance, their foolishness, their weakness, their sin. Set up an ensign for the nations,

O Lord, and bring them to thy glorious rest. Let the earth be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters over the sea. Hasten thy kingdom, O Lord, and bring in everlasting righteousness, for the honour of thy Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ hast broken down the walls of partition between Jew and Gentile, slave and free, Greek and Barbarian; Break down, we beseech thee, all that divides us from one another; shame our jealousies, and lay low our pride; do away with race prejudice, that the bonds of fellowship and mutual service may unite the East and West, the North and the South, that we may live in peace together, in honour preferring one another; to the glory of thy great Name. *Amen.*

Let us intercede for the world and its peoples; first bringing before our eyes the vision of the City of God, coming down out of heaven; into which the kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honour; where there shall be only the glory of God, and upon the throne Him who saith, "Behold, I make all things new."

Let us pray with boldness and hope that the

kingdoms of this world may become the Kingdom of our God and of His Christ.

Jesus said: "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."

Let us pray for all nations that profess and call themselves Christian that they may seek first the kingdom of God and His justice: that they may seek peace and ensue it.

O Eternal Spirit, through whom in every nation he that feareth God and worketh righteousness is accepted by him; Enlighten the hearts of all Christian people, that they may know and perceive in all nations and kindreds of people whatsoever there is in them that is true and honest, just and pure, lovely and of good report, through the Word that lighteth every man, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray for all societies working for a better understanding among the nations, more especially remembering the League of Nations.

Let us pray for the growth of good will and unity; for the sanctity of treaties.

Let us pray for Christian treatment of the colour problem, especially in our own land.

Let us pray for the disinterested care of weak and backward nations.

TEACH us to put away, O Lord, all bitterness and misunderstanding, both from Church and State that we, with all the brethren of the Son of Man, may draw together as one community of peoples, and dwell evermore in the fellowship of that Prince of Peace, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Let us pray for all kings, presidents, ministers of State and all who are in authority among the nations:

In the justice they administer,
In the mercy they display,
In the width of their liberty,
In the security of their law.

Let us pray for all estates of men, that they may not forget God the Father of all; by the division of class from class; by party strife, suspicion and bitterness of spirit; in the selfishness of wealth; in the sufferance of poverty.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, whose will it is to gather all men into the kingdom of thy Son Jesus Christ; Grant, we pray thee, that there may arise in each land prophets, leaders, and teachers able to interpret the eternal good news to the varying needs and temperaments of men; that men everywhere may work together increasingly in agreement, doing things that are sane to do, and that through the great body of mankind may go evermore an increasing common understanding, an intensifying brotherhood, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O GOD, who scatterest the proud in the imagination of their hearts; Forgive our sins of pride, especially religious pride and pride of social class. May we never despise our fellowmen, but in honour prefer one another, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

Let us pray for the representatives of other lands at present living in our country, especially remembering overseas students:

> That Christians they meet may not make it harder for them to believe in

the unity of humanity in Christ's Heavenly Kingdom.
That God will bless all the work being done by the World Student Christian Federation to bring the students of all lands into closer fellowship one with another.

O God, who hast made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the whole earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to them that are afar off, and to them that are nigh; Grant that the peoples of the world may feel after thee and find thee; and hasten, O Lord, the fulfilment of thy promise to pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray together the great family prayer of the kingdom, the Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Once to every man and nation.

Let us pray

Jesus said: "That they all may be one, as thou Father art in me and I in thee, that they also may be one in us."

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

## THE GOVERNMENT OF OUR LAND

HYMN: O God of earth and altar.

Let us pray

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us call to mind all the ways in which we have fallen short as individual citizens, and as a nation, of the great trust committed to us by God. Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

### The General Confession

THE Almighty God have mercy upon us, and forgive us all our sins, deliver us from all evil, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life. *Amen.*

Let us pray for the President and all who hold office in the affairs of our nation.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of all lights, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down, we beseech thee, upon thy servant N, our President, and all who bear authority under him, prudence, fortitude, temperance, and justice, that alike in framing policy and in debate they may be guided by eternal truth and right: this we ask in the Name of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O FATHER of the just; Do thou of thy infinite goodness direct the hearts of all who bear authority. Help them with the power of thy Holy Spirit to make laws in accordance with thy Will, and for the advancement of righteousness. Protect them from the snares of the enemy and the deceits of the world; let no pride of power betray them into rejection of thy commandments; and grant that both those who govern and those who obey with one mind may serve thee our God and King, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Let us pray for our nation.

O GOD of our fathers, and Lord of mercy, who hast made all things with thy Word, and ordained man through thy wisdom, that he should have dominion over the creatures which thou hast

made, and order the world according to equity and righteousness, and execute judgement with an upright heart; Give wisdom to our rulers. O send her out of thy holy heavens, that she may labour with us and know what is pleasing unto thee, that so our works may be acceptable, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Let us pray for the government of this State.

LORD of power and giver of grace and wisdom, we commend to thee all who are engaged in the government of this State; Grant to them clean hands, pure hearts, and unfailing devotion to the cause of righteousness. To thee, merciful Lord, we commend their work, praying that it may be such as will promote thy work, in our midst, to the succour of the poor, the relief of the oppressed, the putting down of all social evils, and the redress of all social wrongs. Let all they think or speak or do, be for thy glory and the good of thy people. *Amen.*

Let us pray that we may be more worthy of our citizenship in this great nation.

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, into whose gracious presence we ascend, not by the frailty of the

flesh, but by the activity of the soul; Make us ever, by thy inspiration to seek after the courts of the heavenly city, and by thy mercy to enter them. *Amen.*

¶ *In time of elections.*

O Lord, look down in mercy upon our country at this time and bless all those who by virtue of their citizenship are called to make choice of fit persons to serve in the councils of this nation; that all things may be established among us with peace and justice. Give honesty, truthfulness, strength and wisdom to those who govern; and grant us grace willingly to do our part in supporting their great work for thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and all for whom we have prayed this night and for evermore. *Amen.*

## THE INDUSTRIAL LIFE OF OUR NATION

Hymn: City of God, how broad and far.

BE YE not anxious for your life, what ye shall eat and what ye shall drink, and for your body what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than its food; the body than its clothes? Your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom and his justice and all these things shall be added unto you. *Matt.* vi: 25-32.

Let us pray

O God, the Father, who makest and lovest all men,

*Have mercy upon us.*

O God, the Son, who hast reconciled us in one body to our Father,

*Have mercy upon us.*

O Holy Spirit of fellowship and joy,

*Have mercy upon us.*

O blessed Trinity, eternal love,

*Have mercy upon us.*

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor those of our Church and people; neither take thou vengeance of our sins,

*Spare us, good Lord.*

From selfishness; from love of ease and pleasure; from all carelessness of our brother's need,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From lust and greed; from the desire of riches; and from all that hardens our hearts against thy love,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From trivial ideals and cheap pleasures; from all false pride, intolerance, and contempt,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From the false piety that cannot smile; and from loving systems more than we love thee,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From everything in our life and methods that may hide thee, the true light of the world,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From the disloyalty of being satisfied with things as they are in the Church and in the world; and from failing to share thy indignation,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

By the power of thy Incarnation; by thy ministry of teaching and healing; by thy bitter Passion; by thy glorious Resurrection; and by the gift of thy Spirit to thy Church,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

That it may please thee to bring all who believe on thy Name to be of one heart and one soul; and to hasten the coming of thy kingdom among men,

*O Christ, hear us.*

That it may please thee to fill us with the spirit of truth and love,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For men who face peril and for women who suffer pain,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For those who till the earth; for those who tend machinery,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For those who strive on the deep waters; for those who venture into far countries,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For those who work in offices and workshops; for those who labour at furnaces and in factories,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For those who toil in mines; for those who buy and sell,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For those who keep house; for those who train children,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For all who live by strength of hand; for all who live by cunning of hand,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For all who control, direct, or employ,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For all who enrich the common life through art, and science, and learning,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For all who guide the common thought, as writers, or as teachers,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For all who may serve the common good, and for all social workers, leaders and statesmen,

*O Christ, hear us.*

For all whose labour is without hope, without honour, without interest; for all who cannot find work; and for those who will not work,

*O Christ, hear us.*

REGARD, we beseech thee, O God of our salvation, the impoverished manhood of the nations; prosper all efforts to put an end to the toil that brings no joy, the strain that wears life out, the burdens of those that are heavy laden. Let the oppressed go free; give beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise fc the spirit of heaviness, that all labour may becon thy service; through the merits of thy Son, Jesu. Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

GUIDE us, O Christ, in all the perplexities of our modern social life, and in thy own good time, bring us together in love and unity, makin; the kingdoms of this world thy kingdom as thou willest, who now dost live and reign in the heavenly

Jerusalem, the light and joy of the citizens of that holy city. *Amen.*

By the spirits of just men made perfect in their suffering; Teach us, in our turn, O Lord, to serve thee as we ought; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do thy will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Lord's Prayer

O Christ, our only Saviour; So dwell within us, that we may go forth with the light of hope in our eyes, and the fire of inspiration on our lips, thy word on our tongues, and thy love in our hearts. *Amen.*

## FOR THE STUDENTS OF THE WORLD

Let us recollect the Presence of God.

Enter into the chambers of thy spirit; shut out all except God and what helps thee to seek Him.

O God, who dost exhort us to pray, and who dost grant what we ask, if only when we ask, we live a better life; Hear us, we humbly beseech thee, and stretch forth thy hand unto us; hold forth thy light before us; recall us from our wandering thoughts; and, thou being our guide, may we be restored to ourselves and unto thee, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Let us give thanks to God our Father, who hast made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who hast delivered us from the powers of darkness and hast translated us into the kingdom of the Son of thy love. *Col.* i: 12-13.

For the signs all around us of the hastening of the coming of the Kingdom of God,

*We thank thee, O Lord.*

For the life of the Student Christian Movement throughout the world, and the revelation of the glory of God, and the power to do his will,

*We thank thee, O Lord.*

For the self-sacrificing love of students for their more unfortunate brethren, which has done so much towards bringing peace and joy to a tired and heart-broken world,

*We thank thee, O Lord.*

For the faith of the leaders of the Church of Christ in the World Student Christian Federation,

*We thank thee, O Lord.*

For the countless unknown acts of love and brotherhood offered by those who, by their lives if not by their profession, are not far from the kingdom of heaven,

*We thank thee, O Lord.*

For the growing dissatisfaction and perplexity as we examine the work of our hands and the message we proclaim,

*We thank thee, O Lord.*

For all God's blessings to ourselves, and more particularly for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the overshadowing of his power,

*We thank thee, O Lord.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

ALMIGHTY and most loving Father, we humbly beseech thee for thy blessing upon the Student Christian Movement. We pray thee to give faith and wisdom to all who have the guidance of its affairs, that nothing may be undertaken

except with firm confidence in thy help, and with a wholehearted desire for thy honour and glory. And to all of us grant an unfailing spirit of love and fellowship, that we may kindle in the hearts of others a like desire; that so our lives and theirs may gladly be spent for the advancement of thy kingdom in this and every land; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Let us pray for all students throughout the world.

That the knowledge that they gain may increase and unfold the glory of God,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That their eyes may be opened to behold the Christ lifted up everywhere in the common ways of life, and that they may see that he alone can bring mankind into one family,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That they may be given courage to make that surrender to Christ without which all their labour must be in vain,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That fearless and able leaders may be raised up to devote themselves to the work of the Student Christian Movement in the days of opportunity that lie immediately ahead,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That the Student Christian Movement may ever be led towards a more fearless life of fellowship with Christ in ever fresh experience of faith; believing that the measure of the practicable is never past experience but always God's call,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, we most humbly praise and bless thy Name for thy many blessings bestowed on the World's Student Christian Federation. We pray thee still to bless and prosper its work, and graciously to use it for the fulfilment of thy purposes in the establishment of peace among all nations, the restoration of visible unity to thy Church, the removal of all social injustice, and the evangelisation of the whole world. Give wisdom, faith, and courage to

all who direct the policy of the federation; keep in health and safety all who work and travel for it; and grant that by its means the students in all lands may be brought into relations of love and sympathy with one another, and may earnestly and wisely unite in thy service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lastly, let us pray for ourselves.

Jesus said: "Freely ye have received, freely give."

That the vision of God and his kingdom may not grow dim before our eyes: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That we may have courage to give of our heritage to the students of our day, remembering that from him to whom much is given, much is required: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That we may make our contribution in humility and love, ever realising that we have much to learn from others: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That we may do nothing by offensive manners or untimely action to hinder the greater reunion of Christ's Church: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast promised to hear the petitions of them that call on thee in thy Son's Name; We beseech thee mercifully to incline thy ears to us that have made our prayers and intercessions unto thee; and grant, that those things, which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our brethren and ourselves, and to the setting forth of thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

MAY the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant; Make us perfect in every good work to do his will, working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

PART TWO

# *The Church of Christ*

*PRAY that Jerusalem may have*
*Peace and felicity:*
*Let them that love thee and thy peace*
*Have still prosperity.*

*Therefore I wish that peace may still*
*Within thy walls remain,*
*And ever may thy palaces*
*Prosperity retain.*

*Now, for my friends and brethren's sake,*
*Peace be in thee, I'll say;*
*And for the house of God our Lord*
*I'll seek thy good alway.*

*—Psalm cxxii, Scottish Psalter, 1650*

## THE REUNION OF CHRISTENDOM

HYMN: The Church's one foundation.

I THEREFORE, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith you were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. And he gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a full-grown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. *Eph.* iv, 1-3; 11-13.

HYMN: O Thou who at Thy Eucharist didst pray.

Let us pray

I believe in one holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

On the whole Catholic Church scattered abroad throughout the world,

*Lord, have mercy.*

On Churches that are passing through times of suffering or persecution,

*Lord, have mercy.*

On Churches that are strong in the Faith once delivered to the Saints,

*Lord, have mercy.*

On Churches that have forsaken their first love,

*Lord, have mercy.*

On Churches that are weak and struggling,

*Lord, have mercy.*

On our own branch of Christ's Body, the Church.

*Lord, have mercy.*

Let us pray

GRACIOUS FATHER, we humbly beseech thee, for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth; in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purge it; and where it is in error, direct it; where it is superstitious, rectify it; where anything is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen and confirm it; where it is in want, furnish it; where it is divided and rent asunder,

make up the breaches of it; O thou Holy One of Israel. *Amen.*

We beseech thee, O Lord, to guard us from the complacent enjoyment of our own privileges and from the feeling that we are better than our fathers were,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

From falling back into old sins: from lowering thy ideal of thy Church; and from disobedience to the heavenly vision,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

From all sins against the brotherhood; from personal ambition or unworthy ease; from indifference to the claims of others, or from party prejudice,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That the bitter grief of a sundered Church may pass away: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That we may have patience with those from whom we differ, striving to appreciate their position and to welcome their peculiar contribution to the whole Church: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That the Holy Spirit may bind us in new fellowship to seek peace and ensue it: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That we may be granted a clear vision to see Christ's will for his Church: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That we may have courage to accomplish his will as much as in us lies: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That our broken fellowship on earth may not mar our share in the perfect fellowship above: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Let us pray

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst say unto thine Apostles, Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church, and grant her that peace and unity which is agreeable to thy will; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

O God, who didst send thy Word to speak in the prophets and live in thy Son, and appoint thy Church to be a witness of divine things in all the world; Revive the purity and deepen the power of its testimony; and through the din of

earthly interests and the storm of human passions, let it make the still small voice of thy Spirit inly felt. Nearer and nearer may thy kingdom come from age to age; meeting the face of the young as a rising dawn, and brightening the song of the old. Already let its light abash our guilty negligence, and touch with hope each secret sorrow of the earth. By the cleansing Spirit of thy Son, make this world a fitting forecourt to that sanctuary not made with hands, where our life is hid with Christ in God. *Amen.*

### The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Thanks be to God.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## THE MISSIONARY WORK OF THE CHURCH

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of the body being many, are one body; so also is Christ. For in one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether bond or free;

and were all made to drink of one Spirit. And whether one member suffereth, all the members suffer with it; or one member is honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and severally members thereof. *I Cor.* ii: 12, 13, 26, 27.

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of the throne saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. *Rev.* xxi: 2, 3.

Jesus said: "Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations."

HYMN: Jesus shall reign where'er the sun.

Let us pray

Lord, have mercy upon us.
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*
Lord, have mercy upon us.
The narrowness of our faith,
*O Lord, forgive.*

Our heedlessness of thy commands,
*O Lord, forgive.*
Our weakness and forgetfulness,
*O Lord, forgive.*
The coldness of our spiritual desires,
*O Lord, forgive.*
The blindness to the world's need of thee,
*O Lord, forgive.*
Our deafness to the world's call,
*O Lord, forgive.*
Our readiness to postpone opportunity,
*O Lord, forgive.*
Our contentment in the self-sacrifice of others,
*O Lord, forgive.*

ALMIGHTY FATHER, enter thou our hearts, and so fill us with thy love, that, forsaking all evil desires, we may embrace thee, our only good. Show unto us, for thy mercies' sake, O Lord our God, what thou art unto us. Say unto our souls, I am thy salvation. So speak that we may hear. Our hearts are before thee; open thou our ears; let us hasten after thy voice, and take hold on thee. Hide not thy face from us, we beseech thee, O Lord. Enlarge thou the narrowness of our souls, that thou mayest enter in. Repair the ruined mansions, that thou mayest dwell there. Hear us, O heavenly Father, for the sake of thine only

Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Let us pray

To love men's souls with the love of the Everlasting Father,

*Help us, we beseech thee.*

To love men's souls with the love of the Holy Redeemer,

*Help us, we beseech thee.*

To love men's souls with the love of the Holy Ghost,

*Help us, we beseech thee.*

To pray and serve with humble gratitude and self-sacrifice,

*Help us, we beseech thee.*

To be full of faith, in the presence of unbelievers,

*Help us, we beseech thee.*

HYMN: Thou Whose almighty word.

Let us pray

That all professing Christians in all lands may faithfully bear witness to their faith in Christ Jesus,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That all missionaries, priests and laity, both men and women, especially . . . may be kept loyal to their Master,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those of them who are suffering in mind, body or estate,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For all converts who suffer loss or persecution for the faith that is in them,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For all weak and unstable souls who are tempted to the denial or betrayal of their Lord,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For the faithful remnant dwelling where the work has ceased for lack of funds,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For all those who have heard the call, but who cannot yet find the way open to missionary service,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For all home workers in the missionary cause, and especially for those upon whom the responsibility for the direction of work overseas rests,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Let us in silence remember before God the great land of Africa, an ancient home of kings,

a land of bitter wrongs, of ignorance and fear, of disease and death, yet a land of promise, of great rivers and forests, mountains and plains, a wealthy land, though now sorrowing.

Let us in silence remember the people of China, an ancient and great people, gifted, lovers of learning, honouring father and mother, whose days have been long in their land.

Let us remember in silence the people of India and pray for the healing of divisions, that India may arise to govern herself and take her rightful place in the comity of nations.

O God, our heavenly Father, who didst manifest thy love by sending thine only begotten Son into the world that all might live through him; Pour thy Spirit upon thy Church that it may fulfil thy command to preach the Gospel to every creature; send forth, we beseech thee, labourers into the harvest; and hasten the time when all shall be saved; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Blessed Lord, who hast never left thyself without witnesses of thy goodness and love; We beseech thee to give the assurance of thy Presence to those who have gone forth as thy

ambassadors in distant lands. Sanctify them, we pray thee, with thy Holy Spirit; teach them to endure hardship; give them perfect mastery over the flesh, and a ready desire to do thy will; gird them with thy truth; make their hearts burn with thy Word; that they may win souls for thy honour and glory. *Amen.*

O Lord, we beseech thee to pour out thy Spirit upon all converts to the faith, that they may ever be followers of thee as dear children; that by their holy and consistent lives they may glorify thy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The kingdom of the world is become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ. Alleluia. *Amen.*

## THE INCREASE OF THE MINISTRY

Hymn: O Thou Who makest souls to shine.

Let us pray

O Chalice of fire that was poured on the Apostles of old in the upper room, thou Holy Spirit of God; Guide us with thy heavenly wis-

dom who are now met to offer our intercessions to our heavenly Father. Strengthen our arms as we lift hands of prayer to God in heaven; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Son, God for ever. *Amen.*

Let us pray for the clergy of our Church.

For the bishops.

GRANT O Lord, thy servants the bishops and overseers of thy Church the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of wisdom and piety, that through their holy conversation the devotion of the faithful may increase; and that the salvation of the flock may be the joy and crown of the shepherd; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For the clergy.

O GOD, who makest thine angels spirits, and thy ministers a flame of fire; Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to stir up and confirm the sacred grace of orders in all stewards of thy mysteries; that as ministering spirits they may gather out of thy kingdom all things that offend, and may kindle in the hearts of all that fire which thou camest to send on the earth; who, with the Father

and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

That they may be gentle, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That they may rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That they may be able to show forth thy light in the world, and be holy examples to the flock of Christ,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That in their ministry they may not care to please, nor fear to displease, any but him who has called them to his service,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That they may not count their lives dear unto them, so that they may finish their course with joy, and the ministry received from the Lord Jesus,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That they may ever be mindful of that solemn account, which, for themselves and others they must one day give at the judgement-seat of Jesus,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Let us pray

O Lord Jesus Christ, the good shepherd, who didst lay down thy life for the sheep, and dost quicken them with the food of thy body and blood; Fill they servants whom thou hast appointed to keep thy flock, with the spirit of thy love, that they may freely spend and be spent for the salvation of thy sheep; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

For an increase in the ministry.

Jesus said: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth more labourers into his harvest."

Let us pray that many may be led in this generation by the power of the Holy Spirit to offer their lives to the service of the Church in the work of the ministry.

O Almighty God, look mercifully upon the world, redeemed by the blood of thy dear Son, and send forth many more to do the work of the ministry, that perishing souls may be res-

cued, and thy glorious triumph may be hastened by the perfecting of thine elect; through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

SET on fire, we pray thee, O Lord, many hearts with a sense of vocation to the holy priesthood of thy Church. Grant that vocations thus found by the power of the Spirit may be fostered by kind parents and wise teachers until their desires are at length fulfilled and they come to serve in thy holy temple. This we ask in the Name of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

For all candidates for Holy Orders.

In their preparation for the work of the ministry,
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*
In the solemn hour of ordination,
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*
In success and failure,
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

O GOD, who dost ever hallow and protect thy Church; Raise up in it through thy Spirit good and faithful ministers of the mysteries of Christ, that by their ministry and example the Christian people may, under thy defence, be guided

into the way of truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray

The Lord's Prayer

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us, and for all whom we have now made these supplications, this night and for evermore. *Amen.*

PART THREE

# *A Parish*

*STILL the weary folk are pining*
*For the hour that brings release:*
*And the city's crowded clangour*
*Cries aloud for sin to cease;*
*And the homesteads and the woodlands*
*Plead in silence for their peace.*

—HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND

## THE CLERGY AND FAITHFUL OF A PARISH

THEN answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son: but I was an herdsman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruits, and the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto Israel. *Amos*. vii: 14-15.

Let us ponder over:

"As I followed the flocks." There would be plenty of time, while the flocks were quietly feeding in the pasture, for reflection and thought about the mystery of life. God's call came to Amos in the quietness. God has chosen us. We come together this night into the quietness that we may be with him.

"Be still then and know that I am God."

"The Lord said." At dinner one evening a lady asked the late Dr. Jowett what he thought about God. After a few moments'

silence he answered: "Madam, I think that the question is: What does God think about me."

In the silence let us think about *God,* and listen to his voice. "I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me."

HYMN: Dear Lord and Father of mankind.

Let us remember the wonderful favours given to us by God our Father through the Incarnation of our Blessed Lord.

"Blessed are the eyes that see the things that ye see."

Let us make an act of praise to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Glory to thee, O Christ, our ascended and ever-present Lord, through whom we draw near to the Father,

Glory to thee, who lovest us and hast loosed us from our sins,

Glory to thee, who art always with us, even to the end of the world,

Glory to thee, who art in our midst when we are gathered together in thy Name,

Glory to thee, the author and finisher of our faith, that God in all things may be glorified,

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Let us pray that the glad light of God's love may shine throughout the world and dawn in our hearts.

That we and all the sons of men may know and find their unity in the one great Father of all: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That the questionings of all minds and the wants of all souls in Jesus may find their peace: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That no more may the Lord Christ be crowded from our lives; that he may come and dwell in our hearts: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That as we respect and reverence Christ's character, we may seek ourselves to imitate it: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That we who attempt to follow the Christ, may use and not neglect or despise his appointed means of prayer and Sacrament: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Jesus said: "Why sleep ye? Rise and pray."

Let us pray

ALMIGHTY GOD, who didst give such grace to the first followers of thy Son, that they readily obeyed his calling and followed him without delay; Grant unto us all, that we, being called by thy holy Word, may forthwith give up ourselves obediently to fulfil thy holy commandments; through the same Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

Jesus said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Let us pray for all Christian workers in this parish, both clergy and laity.

That they may admonish sinners and instruct the ignorant,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That they may counsel the doubtful and comfort the sorrowful,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That they may bear wrongs patiently and forgive injuries,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That they may pray for the living and the dead,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That they may feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That they may visit the sick,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

Let us pray

STIR up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray that all Christian people who worship here may be inspired with Christian courage.

That setting before us the fearlessness of Christ we may struggle to achieve His victory,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

For courage to face difficulty and disappointment with cheerfulness and hope,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*
For courage to make ventures of faith, and to dare all in the following of Christ,
*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*
For courage to persevere unto the end,
*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

Jesus said: "If any man would come after me; let him take up his cross daily and follow me."

O Thou who art heroic love; Kindle, we pray thee, in our hearts that high spirit of adventure in which men scorn the way of safety and seek danger, rather to do thy will; that being ready in body and soul we may accomplish those things that thou wouldest have done, for thy dear Name's sake. *Amen.*

Hymn: O Master let me walk with Thee.

The Blessing

## THE FAMILY LIFE OF THE PARISH

Beloved, I write no new commandment unto you but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning: the old commandment is the word which ye heard. Again, a new command-

ment write I unto you, which thing is true in him and in you; because the darkness is passing away, and the true light already shineth. He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in the darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in the darkness, and walketh in the darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because the darkness hath blinded his eyes. *I. John* ii: 7-11.

Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God: and such we are. *I. John* iii: 1.

Let us this night as we come to intercede before the throne of grace, first thank God for the joys that have been brought to us through the ordinary human relationships in the home and among our friends, and secondly, let us pray for his blessing on the family life of this parish and on the life of fellowship within the Church, which is the House of God.

Let us praise God in gladness and humility for all great and simple joys; and for the weak things of the earth that have confounded the strong,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For the gift of wonder and the joy of discovery; for the everlasting freshness of experience; for the newness of life each day as we grow older,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For the wondrous beauty of nature; the majesty of the mighty mountain and the wonder of the tiniest flower,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For the fireside and the intimate talks of friendship,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For the little traditions and customs of the home; for meals eaten together in fellowship; and for all the sanctities of family life,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For children and the joy of innocency,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For the joy which is born of sympathy and sorrow; for the joy of the lost soul finding love again; and for the joy of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For the image of Christ in ordinary people, their forbearance and their generosity,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

For all holy and humble men of heart, in whom

the loveliness of our Saviour Christ has been made manifest to the world,

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

HYMN: Blest be the tie that binds.

Let us pray

Let us pray for greater mutual respect and trust in our dealings with one another, and for greater love of beauty and active purity in all the associations of daily life: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Jesus said: "All ye are brethren, for one is your Father, which is in heaven."

Let us pray for the revival of the sanctity of the life of the home: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Jesus said: "Ye are the salt of the earth. Ye are the light of the world."

Let us pray for the restoration of health and wholesomeness and gladness in the lives of the men and women who dwell in this place: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*



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Jesus said: "I will, be thou clean."

Let us pray for all married persons who live in this parish: O Lord, hear our prayer,
*And let our cry come unto thee.*

"There was a marriage in Cana of Galilee and Jesus also was bidden."

Let us pray for all married couples who have drifted apart from one another, or who with the passing of the years have found their affection for each other grow cold: O Lord, hear our prayer,
*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Jesus said: "This is my commandment, that ye love one another."

Let us pray for all homes, that they may be happy and God-fearing, as the home of Christ; that they may be made beautiful by the Spirit of divine love, and kept from all that would imperil purity: O Lord, hear our prayer,
*And let our cry come unto thee.*

"And they came with haste, and found both Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger."

Let us pray for all parents that they may tenderly guard and wisely guide the children committed to their charge: O Lord, hear our prayer,
*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Jesus said: "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Let us pray for those parents that are unloving, neglectful, over-harsh or over-indulgent, or, who, by their lives set an example of selfishness and sin: O Lord, hear our prayer,
*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Jesus said: "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones: for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father, which is in heaven."

## Let us pray

O Lord, who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy Holy Name; who livest and reignest with the Father

and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

O God who hast prepared for them that love thee such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love towards thee that we loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding garrison our hearts and minds this night and for evermore. *Amen.*

## THE CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

Hymn: Jesus meek and gentle.

Jesus saith unto Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. *John.* xxi: 15, 16.

Jesus said, See that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. *Matt.* xviii: 10.

There is little need of comment. To our Lord a child's teachableness, humility and artless sincerity were the best symbols that He could find of the qualities required for those that should seek to enter His Kingdom. To wrong a child seemed to Him the most serious of crimes. Every child was so valuable that it was like a sheep lost on the mountain side and sought by the shepherd without ceasing until it is found. Many children in this parish know nothing of the love of Jesus. Our work is simply to bring them to Him that He may take them in His arms and bless them, laying His hands upon them.

## Let us pray

LET us give thanks for Christ's revelation to us of God's love for children and their infinite value in his sight.

For his tender compassion towards them; for his burning indignation against those who do them wrong; for his deep and overflowing love, drawing them with irresistible attraction to himself; for his message of their nearness to the Father of all. For the beauty of children and their joy in all beautiful things, for their mirth and laughter, and for the joy and light that they bring into the world.

For the childhood of Jesus our Lord; for his birth and helpless babyhood; for his mother's gentle care and nurture, and for all unknown souls who nursed and tended him.

For his joyful, eager, natural, yet obedient boyhood, uplifting human childhood into the Godhead: for the love of God by which we know he took to himself the form of a child and gave us the joy of knowing the Father.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Jesus said: "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

That we may have a deepened sense of the Fatherhood of God, and may so practise his Presence that the children may be won for Jesus,

*We beseech thee to hear us.*

That we may have the love of parents and the wisdom of teachers; that our lives may be ruled by simplicity, gladness and sympathy, and that we may guide by the constraining influence of love, rather than by the restraining influence of fear,

*We beseech thee to hear us.*

That with patience we may foster in the children a love of goodness, truth, beauty, and that with chivalry we may lead the splendid energy of youth to find it's outlet and satisfaction in fellowship and service,

*We beseech thee to hear us.*

That by the inspiration of thy loving Spirit we may direct the thoughts of our children through curiosity to wonder, through fairies to angels,

*We beseech thee to hear us.*

That by the same Spirit we may inspire the children to think of Christ as ever near, to know his standard as our standard, his cause as our cause, himself our captain and hero and king,

*We beseech thee to hear us.*

"The streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls."

## Let us pray

GRANT, O Lord, that thy children shall never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, but manfully to fight under his banner against sin, the world and the devil; and to continue Christ's faithful soldiers and servants unto their lives' end. *Amen.*

LORD JESUS, who lovest little children; Lay thy hands on these thy little ones. Thou who didst bless little children brought to thee; Bless them and keep them thine. Keep, Lord, their little eyes from seeing evil; shut, Lord, their little ears from hearing it. Keep, Lord, their little feet upon the king's highway. *Amen.*

JESUS by Thy love divine,
Cause on us Thy light to shine
Fill our hearts with joy benign,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

By Thine own sweet childhood's days
Showing all God's wondrous ways,
By Thy works of love and praise,
We beseech Thee hear us.

By Thy love that casts out fear,
Bidding little ones draw near,
By Thy tenderness so dear,
We beseech Thee hear us.

By Thy sweet humility,
Teaching us simplicity,
By Thine own great Litany,
We beseech Thee hear us.

By Thy ever willing heart,
Love and mercy to impart,
By Thy words, "Come ye apart,"
We beseech Thee hear us.

By the wondrous light of sun,
Heralding a day begun,
By the rest when work is done,
We beseech Thee hear us.

By Thy gift of fruit and flowers
In this wondrous world of ours,
By Thy earth-refreshing showers,
We beseech Thee hear us.

Thus with thankful hearts we bow,
Down before Thy Presence now,
Knowing that in mercy Thou
Evermore wilt hear us.

MAY the grace of courage, and of gaiety, and of a quiet mind, with all such blessedness as belongeth to the children of the Father in heaven, be ours to the praise of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who liveth and reigneth one God, world without end. *Amen.*

## THOSE WHO TEACH IN DAY AND CHURCH SCHOOL

HYMN: Lord speak to me, that I may speak.

Let us pray

BRETHREN be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds, that ye may be strengthened in the inner man.

If there be any fellowship of the Spirit, if any tender mercies and compassions, be ye likeminded, having the same love.

He that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God is love. Hereby we know that He abideth in us because He hath given us of His Spirit.

O GOD, who didst strengthen thine Apostles at the third hour by the visitation of thy Holy Spirit; We beseech thy divine majesty, that thou wilt deign to enlighten and guide our hearts and bodies by his coming, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, who thyself art love; Fill us with the Spirit of thy holy love, that our

hearts being kindled by thee, we may for ever love thee, and each other in thee, and all men for thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us remember before God all work being done among children, especially in this parish.

Jesus said: "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God."

Let us pray for all homes that they may be happy and God-fearing as the home of Christ: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That they may be made beautiful by the spirit of love, and kept from all that would imperil purity: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Let us pray for all little children: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Let us remember especially all who are ill-treated, orphaned, homeless; those whose homes are stricken with poverty, disease and sin; for those whose homes are rich but not towards God: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Jesus said: "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven."

Let us pray that the Church of God may have loving care in tending the young of Christ's flock: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Let us pray for all priests, head teachers, and superintendents who have charge of training the young: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Let us pray for all who teach, remembering especially the Church School teachers of this parish: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That they may dedicate themselves with reverence and humility to their office: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That they may be daily inspired with the greatness of their vocation: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That by personal influence and example, no less than by the imparting of sound knowledge they may rightly develop the minds and characters of those whom they teach: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

Let us pray for all boys and girls now attending school: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That they may find and give there good fellowship and loyalty: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That they may be helped in the hour of temptation: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That they may be strengthened in character: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

That the friendships they form there may be hallowed by the friendship of Christ: O Lord, hear our prayer,

*And let our cry come unto thee.*

## The Lord's Prayer

## Let us pray

O Christ our only Saviour, so come to dwell in the hearts of these thy servants and children for whom we have now made these our supplications, that they may go on life's journey with the light of thy hope in their eyes, and with thy faith and love in their hearts; who livest and

reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God for ever. *Amen.*

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to Thee, O God.

GRANT, O Lord, that the ears which have heard the voice of thy songs may be closed to the voice of clamour and dispute; that the eyes which have seen thy great love may behold thy blessed hope; that the tongues which have sung thy praise may speak the truth; that the feet which have walked in thy courts may walk in the region of light; and that the bodies which have partaken of thy living body may be restored in newness of life. Glory be to thee for thy unspeakable gift. *Amen.*

FATHER of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Who has revealed thyself to us in this wondrous Sacrament of the precious body and blood of thy dear Son;

With overflowing hearts we worship and adore thee;

To thy fatherly keeping we commend ourselves and those who are dear to us;

All who have asked our prayers; and all for whom we ought to pray;

All to whom we owe our gratitude;

Any who are sick and in sorrow;

Those who are in the far country and have not yet come to themselves;

Any who are in doubt, or fear, or distress of mind;

All who know thee not as Father, but fear thee as Avenger.

Let thy fatherly protection be about their way;

Let thy fatherly wisdom direct their steps;

Let thy fatherly strength support their weakness;

Let thy fatherly goodness supply their every need;

And may we and they gather at last in the gladness of our Father's house. *Amen.*

SOUL of Christ, sanctify me! Body of Christ, save me!

Blood of Christ, inebriate me!

Water from the side of Christ, wash me!

Passion of Christ, strengthen me!

O Good Jesu, hear me! Within thy wounds, hide me!

Suffer me not to be separated from thee!

From the wicked enemy, defend me!

In the hour of my death call me, and bid me, come to thee; that with thy saints
I may praise thee, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Nunc dimittis*

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;
To be alight to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

SANCTIFY, O Lord, both our coming in and our going forth; and grant that when we leave thy house we may not leave thy Presence, but be thou ever near unto us and keep us near unto thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

LET the Word of Christ dwell in us richly in all wisdom, that we may sing with grace in our hearts, and whatsoever we do, in word or in deed, we may do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. *Amen and Amen.*

THE SICK OF THE PARISH

HYMN: At even when the sun was set.

O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and passion hast redeemed us.

*Save us and help us we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

And the prayer of faith shall save him that is sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. *James* v: 15.

Let us pray

Let us call to mind that as we draw near to intercede for these our brethren, our Lord comes to meet us.

Jesus said: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Almighty Father, who in the afflictions of thy people art thyself afflicted, and art full of compassion and tender mercy, hear us as we pray for those who suffer,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those who this night bear the pains of childbirth,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those who are lying on beds of sickness,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For the aged and the dying,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For all who are hindered in the race of life through no fault of their own,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For the mentally defective, and for the delicate in body,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For all those who have been maimed or disabled,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For little children, whose surroundings hide from them thy love and beauty; for all the fatherless and motherless,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those who have to bear their burdens alone, and for all who have lost those whom they love,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those whose suffering is unrelieved by the knowledge of thy love, and for all who suffer through their own wrong-doing,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Let us pray

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ went about doing good, and healing all manner of sickness and disease among the people; Continue, we beseech thee, this gracious work among us. Cheer, heal, and sanctify the sick; grant to the physicians, surgeons, and nurses wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience, and assist with thy blessing all who are seeking to prevent suffering and to forward thy purposes of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast shown us in the life and teaching of thy Son the true way of blessedness, thou hast also showed us in his suffering and death that the path of love may lead to the Cross, and the reward of faithfulness may be a crown of thorns; Give us grace to learn these hard lessons. May we take up our Cross and follow Christ, in the strength of patience and the constancy of faith; and may we have such fellowship with him in sorrow, that we may know the secret of his strength and peace, and see, even in our darkest hour of trial and anguish, the shining of eternal light. *Amen.*

Let us remember before God that multitude which no man can number, who in the hope of the resurrection have passed through the valley of the

shadow of death; and let us pray that they may be granted eternal light.

O most merciful Lord Jesus, give unto them eternal rest. Be mindful, O Lord, of thy servants who are gone before us with the sign of faith, and sleep in the sleep of peace. To all that rest in Christ, grant, we beseech thee, a place of refreshment, light and peace, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Now unto him that is able to keep us from falling and to present us faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy; to the only wise God our Saviour be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

## THE COMMON LIFE OF DAILY SERVICE

Hymn: Thy kingdom come, O Lord.

### Let us pray

Holy is the true light and passing wonderful, lending radiance to them that endure in the heat of the conflict: from Christ they inherit a

home of unfading splendour, wherein they rejoice for evermore.

Jesus, born in poverty, born to bring peace among men, workman at Nazareth,

*Have mercy upon us.*

Jesus, in whom all the nations of the earth are one, in whom is neither slave or free, the brother of all,

*Have mercy upon us.*

Jesus, friend of the poor, feeder of the hungry, healer of the sick,

*Have mercy upon us.*

Jesus, calling them that labour and are heavy laden, in whom is no respect of persons, companion of the outcast,

*Have mercy upon us.*

Jesus, denouncing the oppressor, enemy of mammon, betrayed for the sake of money,

*Have mercy upon us.*

Jesus, crucified for us,

*Have mercy upon us.*

Let us pray

O Lord, who hast set before us the great hope that thy kingdom will come on earth, and has taught us to pray for its coming; Make us

ever ready to thank thee for the signs of its dawning, and to pray and work for that perfect day when thy Will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven; who livest and reignest with the father and the Holy Ghost, God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O Father of light and God of all truth; Purge the world from all errors, abuses, corruptions, and sins. Beat down the standard of Satan, and set up everywhere the standard of Christ. Abolish the reign of sin and set up the kingdom of grace in all hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

From dishonesty in business and from slackness in work,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*
From class biterness and from partial judgement,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*
From oppression of the poor and from envy of the rich,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*
From thriftlessness and from vain luxury,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*
From intemperance and lust,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

HYMN: City of God, how broad and far.

Let us pray

We beseech thee, O Lord, mighty and pitiful, that thou wilt guide, protect, and inspire all those who learn and labour truly to get their own living,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For men who face peril; for women who suffer pain,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those who till the earth; for those who tend machinery,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those who keep house; for those who train children,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For those who write where many read,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

For all who control, rule, or employ; for all labour of heart and brain,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

And for all who are poor, broken and oppressed; for all whose labour is without hope, without honour, without leisure; for all who are lonely and unloved; for all who cannot find work, and for those who will not work,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Together we have tried to heed the dangers of an easy road, untrod by feet worth following, let us recall that Jesus is calling us to bathe bruised feet and set them again on the king's highway.

Let us rededicate our lives to God, as men and women who have consecrated themselves to the service of others and the following of him, who is the Way, even if it lead us to the shadow of the Cross.

O Jesus Christ, the Lord of all good life, who hast called us to help build the city of God; Do thou enrich and purify our lives and deepen in us our discipleship. Help us daily to know more of thee, and through us by the power of thy Spirit, show forth thyself to other men. Make us humble, brave and loving; make us ready for adventure. We do not ask that thou wilt keep us safe, but that thou wilt keep us loyal; who for us didst face death unafraid, and dost live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

So down the mountain! Along the highway! Towards the city!

Saying together that prayer which makes all the roads lead home, and all men one family:

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

NOW the God of all grace who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after we have suffered awhile, make us perfect, stablish, strengthen us: To him be glory and dominion for ever. *Amen and Amen.*

## THE CONVERSION OF SINNERS

WHAT man of you, having a hundred sheep, and having lost one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. *Luke* XV: 4, 5.

And the seventy returned again with joy, saying,

Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. *Luke* x: 17.

ALSO I ask, but ever from the praying
Shrinks my soul backward, eager and afraid,
Point me the sum and shame of my betraying,
Show me, O Love, Thy wounds that I have made!

Yes, Thou forgivest, but with all forgiving
Canst not renew mine innocence again:
Make Thou, O Christ, a dying of my living,
Purge me from the sin but never from the pain.

*Frederic W. H. Myers.*

HYMN: Lord in this Thy mercy's day.

Let us pray

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious death hast redeemed us.

*Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who hast said: Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you; Hear now,

we humbly pray thee, our prayers which we make before thee for all sorts and conditions of men. Grant that as we plead for others we may be mindful of our own sins. Fill our hearts with penitence and give to us who ask, the gift of thy most divine love, that we may never cease to praise thee, who livest and reignest, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

By thine agony in the garden,
*Jesu, hear and save.*
By thy scourging,
*Jesu, hear and save.*
By thy crowning with thorns and mocking,
*Jesu, hear and save.*
By thy carrying of the Cross.
*Jesu, hear and save.*
By the bitter hours of thy Crucifixion,
*Jesu, hear and save.*
By thy death and burial,
*Jesu, hear and save.*
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
*Grant us thy peace.*
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
*Have mercy upon us.*

Jesus said: "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."

Let us pray

ALMIGHTY GOD, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. *Amen.*

From all pride and covetousness,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*
From all lust and anger,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*
From all gluttony and envy,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*
From all sloth and deceit,
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

Let us pray

WE BESEECH thee, O Lord, to set our feet in a large room, where hearts are made pure

from sin by faith in thee, where faces are turned to the light, where all are one in thee; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

STRENGTHEN us, we beseech thee, O heavenly Father, that rejoicing in the goodness of other people we may be kept from envy and jealousy, and may strive by faithful living to enter here on earth into the brotherhood which thou hast perfected in heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Jesus, whom Judas sold; Forgive those faithless through love of riches and the world's deceits,

*Jesu, have mercy.*

Thou, whom Peter denied; Forgive the timorous and those betrayed by sudden fear,

*Jesu, have mercy.*

Thou, whom Caiaphas condemned; Forgive those who have seen and hated both thee and thy Father,

*Jesu, have mercy.*

Thou, whom Pilate sentenced; Forgive those who bow before the judgment of men,

*Jesu, have mercy.*

Thou, whom the soldiers crucified and the

crowd blasphemed; Forgive the ignorant who know not what they do,

*Jesu, have mercy.*

Thou, to whom the dying thief appealed; Forgive the penitent and absolve the dying,

*Jesu, have mercy.*

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray thee set thy passion, cross, and death between thy judgement and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Vouchsafe to grant mercy and grace to the living, rest to the dead, to thy holy Church peace and concord, and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; who with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## FOR THOSE VISITING HOMES IN THE PARISH

Hymn: Ye servants of the Lord.

The word of the Cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us that are being saved

it is the power of God. We preach Christ crucified, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God; because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For behold your calling, how that not many wise after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called: but God chose the foolish things of the world, that he might put to shame them that are wise; and God chose the weak things of the world, that he might put to shame the things that are strong; and the base things of the world and the things that are despised, did God choose, yea and the things that are not, that he might bring to nought the things that are: that no flesh should glory before God. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who was made unto us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption: that, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. *I. Cor.* i:18-31.

May we remember:

> The old legend of the bundle of sticks which could be broken so easily when taken singly but which resisted all efforts to break them when bound together and, remembering it, may we go out on our task with a united purpose.

The central place the Cross must hold both in our faith and in our lives. It is perhaps natural that we shrink from the burden of this work, and yet the Cross belongs by right to the heart of our religion.

That while we feel, no doubt, terribly unfitted for this task, it is not we who have undertaken this work but it is God who has laid it upon us, and called us to his service.

## Let us pray

Let us pray for the spirit of unity in this work.

That we may have patience to understand others from whom we differ, but who bear thy Name and adore thee as Saviour, and may be ready to appreciate the truths for which they stand,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That we may be delivered from all scandal, sin, and shame; from complicity with wrong and compromise with evil,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That we may be delivered from inconsistency, wavering and fear; that we may shine forth as lights in the world, and be as a city set on a hill,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That we may serve thee in joyfulness of spirit; that we may encourage the noble and inspire the brave; that we may keep a heart of compassion for all mankind and defend the cause of the poor and oppressed,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst pray for thy disciples that they might be one even as thou art one with the Father; Draw us to thyself, that, in common love and obedience to thee, we may be united to one another in the fellowship of the one Spirit, that the world may believe that thou art Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

As Christ calls us, in common with all his followers, to share his Cross, so let us pray for a deepening of our own devotion and discipleship.

"We preach not ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake."

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an Angel, so by his cross and passion

we may be brought to the glory of his ressurection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

From lack of reverence for truth and beauty; from prejudice and sentimentalism; from being content with the mean and ugly,

*O Christ, deliver us.*

From the cowardice that dare not face new truth; from the laziness contented with half-truths; and the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth,

*O Christ, deliver us.*

From all that is hollow, unreal, and insincere,

*O Christ, deliver us.*

From the false piety that cannot smile; from being self-centred in our pity; and from loving systems more than we love thee,

*O Christ, deliver us.*

From everything in our lives and methods which may hide thee, who art the light of the world,

*O Christ, deliver us.*

From the disloyalty of being satisfied with things as they are, in the Church and in the world; and from failing to share thy indignation,

*O Christ, deliver us.*

Let us pray

O Lord Jesus Christ, who for our sakes didst undergo shame and pain, we confess most humbly that we have refused to share the burden of thy cross; that we have denied thee rather than face mockery, and have sought comfort and security. Forgive our sins, help us to amend and give us courage to endure, for thy dear Name's sake. *Amen.*

Lastly as we stand together at the threshold of this adventure, conscious of our own unworthiness, let us pray for Christian courage.

That setting before us the fearlessness of Christ we may struggle to achieve his victory,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That we may face difficulties with cheerfulness and hope,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That we may have courage in Christian witness,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That we may have courage to make ventures of faith, and to dare all in following the Christ,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

That we may have courage to persevere unto the end,

*We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord.*

O ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, of thy bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech thee, from all things that may hurt us; that we being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that thou wouldest have done; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

MAY God give us light to guide us, courage to support us, and love to unite us, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

PART FOUR

# *The Holy Eucharist*

*MY LORD, My Master, at Thy feet adoring,*
*I see Thee bowed beneath Thy load of woe;*
*For me a sinner, is Thy life blood pouring;*
*For Thee, my Saviour, scarce my tears will flow.*

*O Victim of Thy love! O pangs most healing!*
*O saving death! O wounds that I adore!*
*O shame most glorious! Christ before Thee kneeling,*
*I pray Thee keep me Thine for evermore.*

## IN PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN: I hunger and I thirst.

Let us pray

Psalm cxxx. *De Profundis*

OUT of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice.

O let thine ears consider well: the voice of my complaint.

If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it?

For there is mercy with thee: therefore shalt thou be feared.

I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him: in his word is my trust.

My soul fleeth unto the Lord: before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.

O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy: and with him is plenteous redemption.

Let us in silence confess our sins to Almighty

God; sins against him; sins against the brethren; and sins against ourselves.

Let us pray

MAY the fire of the Holy Spirit cleanse our hearts and reins, that we may serve thee with a chaste body and a pure heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O LORD, we beseech thee, visit and cleanse our consciences, that thy Son Jesus Christ may, when he cometh, find in us a dwelling-place prepared for him; who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Let us pray that God will over-rule our thoughts and desires as we draw near to this Holy Feast.

CLEANSE the thoughts of our hearts, O Lord, as we come again to partake of the holy Sacrament of thy body and blood; and enlighten our minds by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may be delivered from all insincerity and hypocrisy, from satisfaction with ourselves as we are, and from failure to see how great is our need of thy grace and strength. This we ask for thy dear Name's sake. *Amen.*

Here in the silence let us recollect once again that scene in the upper room, when our Blessed Lord and Saviour, after supper, "took bread, and when he had given thanks, he break it, and gave it to them saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. And the cup in like manner after supper, saying, this cup is the new covenant in my blood."

Let us keep silence for a space.

Let us pray

O Lord, most glorious Lamb of God, most tender priest of man, who feedest thine own with the bread that cometh down from heaven, in whose hands is a cup and the wine is red; We pray thee with this food and drink so to satisfy our hunger that we hunger yet more, and our thirst that it never be quenched; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever. *Amen.*

Let us sing, kneeling, the hymn: Of the glorious body telling.

Let us pray

ALMIGHTY, everlasting God, lo! we draw near to the Sacrament of thy only begotten Son Jesus Christ; we come sick to the physician of life, unclean to the fountain of mercy, blind to the light of eternal brightness, poor and needy to the Lord of all things. We pray thee, therefore, to wash our defilements, to enlighten our blindness, to enrich our poverty, to clothe our nakedness; that we may receive the true bread of angels, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, with a humble, lowly, and contrite heart, with a lively faith in thy mercy, and a pure desire to do thy will. Grant, we beseech thee, that we may receive not only the Sacrament of the true body and blood of our Lord, but also the full benefit of the Sacrament. O most gracious God, grant us so to receive the body of thy only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, that we may be made perfectly one with his holy body, the Church. O most loving Father, grant unto us, that as we desire here to receive him veiled from sight, we may hereafter behold him face to face; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth, ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Let us pray that as we come near to this sweet Sacrament we may come prepared to offer there

to God all that we have and are, through God's grace, to His service.

Hear the words of our beloved Saviour:

> "As I, with my hands spread out on the Cross, and my body naked, of my own will offered myself to God the Father, even so offer thyself to me, and give thy whole self to God, and thy offering will be accepted. Behold, I offered my whole self to the Father, for thee, and have given my whole body and blood for thy food, that I might be wholly thine and thou mightest be wholly mine."

Jesus said:

> BLESSED are the poor in spirit:
> For theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
> Blessed are they that mourn:
> For they shall be comforted.
> Blessed are the meek:
> For they shall inherit the earth.
> Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness:
> For they shall be filled.
> Blessed are the merciful:

For they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart:
For they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers:
For they shall be called the sons of God.

Let us pray

O Lord Jesus, grant that we be not shaped to the pattern of this world, but transformed for the service of the world, so that we may prove what is the good and beautiful and perfect will of God. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

God the Father, maker of men; God the Son, born amongst men; God the Holy Spirit, sanctifying men; Bless, preserve and keep us, and all whom we love, and all who need our prayers, this night and for evermore. *Amen.*

IN THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
That holy things have taken;
Let ears that now have heard Thy songs
To clamour never waken.

Lord, may the tongues which "Holy" sang
Keep free from all deceiving;
The eyes which saw Thy love be bright,
Thy blessed hope perceiving.
The feet that tread Thy holy courts
From light do Thou not banish;
The bodies by Thy Body fed
With Thy new life replenish.

Liturgy of Malabar.
*Tr. C. W. H. and P. D.*

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again to a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for us who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. *I. Pet.* i:3-5.

Psalm cl

O PRAISE God in his holiness: praise him in the firmament of His power.

Praise him in his noble acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Praise him in the sound of the trumpet: praise him upon the lute and harp.

Praise him in the cymbals and dances: praise him upon the strings and pipe.

Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.

Let everything that hath breath: praise the Lord.

Let us pray

Lord have mercy upon us.
*Christ have mercy upon us.*
Lord have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us grace to receive the body and blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, that by means thereof we may be united more closely unto thee; Grant that we may strive to promote unity and fellowship among all men, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

PART FIVE

# *A Day of Prayer*

*MORE things are wrought by prayer*
*Than this world dreams of. Wherefore let thy voice*
*Rise like a fountain for me night and day.*
*For what are men better than sheep or goats*
*That nourish a blind life within the brain,*
*If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer*
*Both for themselves and those who call them friends?*
*For so the whole round earth is every way*
*Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.*

—ALFRED TENNYSON

## A DAY OF PRAYER

In recent years the practice of holding days devoted to intercession for the work of the Church of Christ has grown considerably. Usually these Days of Prayer last from after the offering of the Holy Eucharist until Evensong.

The day is divided into periods of a quarter of an hour, each of which constitutes a "watch," and individual members make themselves responsible some time before for a watch. It is preferable to hold such a day in a side chapel if there is one. A Litany desk placed at the altar rails provides a suitable place for watchers to pray at. It is advisable to place a clock nearby the Litany desk, and to instruct persons sharing the day to come and stand at the side of the previous "watcher" about a minute before they are due to begin their own watch.

It is sometimes found that people are very diffident about spending a quarter of an hour in silent intercession unless they are mature in the devotional life. For this reason the following suggestions are made. If this outline of suggested intercession is used for a Day of Prayer it is

recommended that a copy should be placed on the Litany desk, and a typed copy put on the notice board some days before the Day of Prayer, in order that those intending to take part in it should have an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the subjects about which they are going to be asked to pray.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR USE OF MY WATCH IN A DAY OF PRAYER

I. Place yourself in the Presence of God, and remember:

(i) GOD IS HERE.

"The Lord is in his holy temple; let the whole earth keep silence before him."

(ii) GOD LOVES.

"God so loved . . . that he gave his only-begotten Son."

(iii) GOD SAVES.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

"O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him."

II. Thank God for His manifold mercies.

"O speak good of the Lord, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion: praise thou the Lord, O my soul."

"Young men and maidens, old men and children, praise the name of the Lord."

O Most High, Almighty, Good Lord, to thee belong praise, glory, honour and all blessing.

Praise be my Lord God, with all His creatures, and especially our brother the Sun, who brings us the day and who brings us the light: fair is he, and shines with a very great splendour.

O Lord, he signifies us to thee!

Praise be my Lord for our sister the Moon, and for the Stars, the which He has set lovely and clear in the heaven.

Praise be my Lord for our brother the Wind, and for Air and Clouds, Calms and all Weather, by which thou upholdest life and all creatures.

Praise be my Lord for our sister Water, who is very serviceable to us, and humble and precious and clean.

Praise be my Lord for our brother Fire, through whom thou givest us light in the darkness; and he is bright and pleasant and very mighty and strong.

Praise be my Lord for our mother the Earth, the which doth sustain us and keep up, and bringeth forth divers fruits and flowers of many colours, and grass.

Praise be my Lord for all those that pardon one another for love's sake, and who endure weakness and tribulation: blessed are they who shall peacefully endure, for thou, O Most High, wilt give them a crown.

Praise be my Lord for our sister, the Death of the body, from which no man escapeth. Woe to him who dieth in mortal sin. Blessed are those who die in thy most holy will, for the second death shall have no power to do them harm.

Praise ye and bless the Lord, and give thanks to him and serve him with great humility.

III. Pray for the conversion of our parish.

(a) For the Church in this place.

That she may offer herself

a pure sacrifice of prayer
and lowly service.
That she may be truly
Catholic in faith and love.
That she may be at peace
within her borders.

GRACIOUS FATHER, we humbly beseech thee for thy holy Church. Fill it with all truth; in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt purge it; where anything is amiss reform it; where it is in error direct it; where it is right strengthen it; where it is in want furnish it, O thou Holy One of Israel. Amen.

O LORD, without whom our labour is lost, and with whom thy little ones go forth as the mighty; Be present to all works of thy Church which are undertaken according to thy will, especially, . . . and grant to thy labourers a pure intention, patient faith, sufficient success upon earth, and the bliss of serving thee in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(b) For the missioner.

¶*To be used at the time of preparation for a mission.*

That he may shew forth God's light in this

place and be an holy example to the flock of Christ.

That in his ministry here he may not care to please nor fear to displease, any but him who has called us to his service.

For all workers for this mission.

That we may be careful to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

That with sincerity of purpose we may aim at God's greater glory in this work as in all things.

That we may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ALMIGHTY GOD, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified; Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before thee for all estates of men in thy holy Church, that every member of the same in his vocation and ministry, may truly and godly serve thee, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

(c) For the conversion of sinners.

Jesus said.

> "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."
> ". . . to give my life a ransom for many."

O Lord, who dost not willingly afflict the sons of men, behold from thy holy habitation the multitude of miserable souls and lives among us, and have mercy upon them.

Have mercy upon all ignorant souls, and instruct them; upon all deluded minds, and enlighten them; on all seduced and seducing spirits, and convert them.

Have mercy upon all broken hearts, and heal them; on all struggling with temptation, and rescue them; on all languishing in spiritual desertion, and revive them.

Have mercy on all who stagger in faith, and establish them; that are fallen from thee, and raise them; that stand with thee, and confirm them.

Have mercy on all who groan under their sins, and ease them; that go on in their wickedness, and curb them.

O Blessed Jesus, who didst shed thy blood for our souls to save them; shed thy Holy Spirit upon all and heal them, for thy mercy's sake. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray thee to set thy passion, cross, and death between thy judgment and our souls now and at the hour of our death. Vouchsafe to grant mercy and grace to the living, rest to the dead, to thy holy Church peace and concord, and to us sinners everlasting life and glory, for thy dear Name's sake. Amen.

(d) Pray for yourself.

That your home may be filled with the sweet atmosphere of Christian love.
That you may never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
That you may never forget that you have been saved to serve.
That you may have courage to face difficulties with cheerfulness and hope.
That you may have courage to make ventures of faith and to dare all in the following of Christ.
That for love of him who when he was reviled, reviled not again, you may keep your tongue from evil speaking, lying and slandering.

That you may see in every man the brother for whom Christ died.

"Beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, keep yourselves in the love of God."

## The Lord's Prayer

O God, the God of all goodness and grace, who art worthy of a greater love than I can either give or understand; fill my heart, I beseech thee, with such love towards thee that nothing may seem too hard for me to do in obedience to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"The kingdom of the world
Is become the kingdom of our Lord
And of His Christ
And he shall reign for ever and ever
Alleluia. Amen and Amen."

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